

Claims:

1. A method of producing a bar code, comprising:

- (a) any base bar code printed in a usual and customary manner, and
- (b) at least one module printed with a thermochromic material within said base bar code,

whereby, the storage temperature of said bar code can be determined when said bar code is scanned by a bar code reader and,

whereby, a plurality of codes can be incorporated into the space of a single bar code.

2. A method of producing a bar code comprising:

- (a) a revocable bar code printed entirely with a quondam thermochromic material
- whereby, said bar code can be rendered permanently invisible to warn a bar code reader of an existing or historically undesirable environmental condition.

3. A method of producing a bar code comprising:

- (a) a base bar code printed with a thermochromic material, and
- (b) at least one module printed with at least one other thermochromic material within said base bar code,

whereby, each thermochromic material responds to a separate temperature range, and

whereby, said bar code can display a plurality of predetermined codes, including a null code, in order to measure a series of temperature variations.

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